

Appl. No. 10/749,243
Amdt. dated July 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated February 14, 2005

PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A front side-part structure of a vehicle, comprising:
a front side member;
a fender apron inner panel disposed at a lateral side of said front side member;
a fender apron upper panel disposed at a lateral side of said fender apron inner panel;
and
a reinforcing member coupled with said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member.
2. (Original) The structure as defined in claim 1, wherein said fender apron inner panel is coupled at one end to said front side member, and the other end thereof is coupled to said fender apron upper panel by being upwardly bent.
3. (Original) The structure as defined in claim 2, wherein said reinforcing member has a channel shaped cross-section for forming a closed section by coupling with said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member; and
said channel shaped cross-section perpendicularly extends along a longitudinal direction of said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member.
4. (Original) The structure as defined in claim 3, wherein said channel shaped cross-section is formed by two facing side surfaces and a surface connecting two end portions of said two facing side surfaces; and
a coupling portion of said reinforcing member to said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member is formed with flanges therearound for contacting surfaces of said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member.

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5. (New) The structure as defined in claim 1, wherein said reinforcing member is disposed laterally outwardly from said fender apron inner panel.
6. (New) A front side-part structure of a vehicle, comprising:
 - a front side member;
 - a fender apron inner panel disposed along an outer lateral side of said front side member;
 - a fender apron upper panel disposed at a lateral side of said fender apron inner panel;
 - and
 - a reinforcing member disposed laterally outward from the fender apron inner panel and coupled with said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member.
7. (New) The structure as defined in claim 6, wherein said reinforcing member is configured to form a closed cross-section with said fender apron inner panel.
8. (New) The structure as defined in claim 7, wherein said reinforcing member has a channel-shaped cross-section.
9. (New) The structure as defined in claim 8, wherein said reinforcing member includes flanges disposed along edges of said channel shape.
10. (New) A front side-part structure of a vehicle, comprising:
 - a front side member;
 - a fender apron inner panel disposed at a lateral side of said front side member;
 - a fender apron upper panel disposed at a lateral side of said fender apron inner panel;
 - and
 - a reinforcing member coupled with said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member;

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wherein said fender apron inner panel is coupled at one end to said front side member, and the other end thereof is coupled to said fender apron upper panel by being upwardly bent; and

wherein said reinforcing member has a channel shaped cross-section for forming a closed section by coupling with said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member, and said channel shaped cross-section perpendicularly extends along a longitudinal direction of said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member.

11. (New) The structure as defined in claim 10, wherein said channel shaped cross-section is formed by two facing side surfaces and a surface connecting two end portions of said two facing side surfaces; and

a coupling portion of said reinforcing member to said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member is formed with flanges therearound for contacting surfaces of said fender apron upper panel, fender apron inner panel, and front side member.